

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-12 are pending. Claims 1-5 and 7 have been amended. Claim 12 has been added. No new matter has been added.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,542,604 to Blon et al. ("Blon").

The Examiner contends that Blon discloses a method for correcting for an echo signal component in a telecommunications device comprising the steps of sampling a transmitted signal across a sampling resistor, subtracting the sampled signal (through a subtractor) from a received signal, to obtain a reconstructed signal, and further sampling the transmitted signal across a first RC network echo compensation circuit to obtain an echo compensation signal which is subtracted from the received signal to compensate the reconstructed signal.

Applicant disagrees and respectfully submits that Blon discloses receiving tip and ring signals which are the sum of an echo signal and a far end signal, sampling the received tip signal through a sampling resistor, creating a tip replica echo signal by sampling the sampled tip signal through an impedance replica network, sampling the received ring signal through a sampling resistor, creating a ring replica echo signal by sampling the sampled ring signal through the same impedance replica network, feeding both received signals and both replica echo signals to a

subtractor, which subtracts the replica echo signals from the received signals to provide the far end signal (Blon, column 3, lines 62-67.)

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the step of “providing the first echo compensation signal and the reconstructed received signal to a first circuit node.” This feature, which is part of the original disclosure, allows for a reduction in circuit components and elimination of active circuitry, such as a subtractor, and thereby distinguishes the claim over Blon. Applicants submit that Blon does not disclose each and every element of amended claim 1. Therefore, Blon does not anticipate claim 1. Withdrawal and reconsideration of this rejection is requested.

Claims 5, 9, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,445,791 to Grisamore et al. (“Grisamore”). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Grisamore patent has a priority date of August 9, 1999. While the present application has a filing date of December 14, 1999, Applicant attests that the claimed inventions have an invention date which is earlier than the priority date of Grisamore. In support of this earlier date of conception, Applicant is filing herewith a Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, signed by the inventor on September 23, 2003. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Grisamore does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), and requests that the rejection of claims 5, 9, and 11 be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-8 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grisamore in view of Blon. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

As previously set forth above and supported by a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 submitted herewith, Applicant submits that the claimed inventions have an invention date which is

earlier than the priority date of Grisamore. Therefore, Grisamore does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

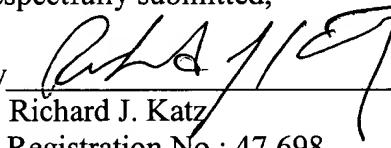
Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated May 8, 2003 has been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that claims 1-12 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: October 8, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By


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